AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1-36 (cancelled)

37. (New) A method for the modular production of coverings of different categories for use in one of paper machines, paperboard machines and tissue machines, said method comprising the steps of:

prefabricating a construction kit of web-shaped material layers;

selecting a plurality of said web-shaped material layers from said construction kit depending on a category and operating condition of the covering to be produced;

stacking said web-shaped material layers atop one another; and

joining said web-shaped material layers to one another at least in sections, two-dimensionally, and in a manner that prevents said web-shaped material layers from being detached.

38. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein said stacking of said web-shaped material layers comprises stacking them in an order which depends on the category and the operating conditions of the covering.

39. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein said joining of said web-shaped material layers comprises joining at least two web-shaped material layers together chemically.

40. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein said joining at least two web-shaped material layers together chemically is effected by an interface-active bond.

41. (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein said interface-active bond is effected by one of vulcanizing, welding and melting.

42. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein said joining at least two web-shaped material layers together chemically is effected by adding a bonding medium.

43. (New) The method according to claim 42, wherein said bonding medium is an adhesive.

44. (New) The method according to claim 42, wherein said bonding medium forms a material layer which is arranged between said joined material layers.

45. (New) The method according to claim 44, wherein said bonding medium forms a foamed material layer between said joined material layers.

46. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein said joining of said web-shaped material layers comprises joining at least two web-shaped material layers together mechanically.

47. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said joining at least two web-shaped material layers together mechanically is effected by pressing.

48. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein said joining of said web-shaped material layers comprises joining at least two web-shaped material layers together by a textile joining method.

49. (New) The method according to claim 48, wherein said textile joining method is effected by one of sewing and pinning.

50. (New) A covering for use in one of paper machines, paperboard machines and tissue machines, said covering comprising:

a construction kit including a plurality of prefabricated web-shaped material layers, each said web-shaped material layer being configured dependent upon a category and operating conditions of the covering, said plurality of prefabricated web-shaped material layers being stacked atop one another and joined to one another at least in sections, two-dimensionally, and in a manner that prevents said plurality of prefabricated web-shaped material layers from being detached.

51. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said web-shaped material layers have a stacking order that is dependent upon the category and the operating conditions of the covering.

52. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said web-shaped material layers fulfill specific functions.

53. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said web-shaped material layers are joined to one another in sections via a bonding medium that fulfills specific functions one of on its own and in combination with at least one of said material layers.

54. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein the construction kit of prefabricated web-shaped material layers comprises at least one material layer influencing the surface of a fibrous web and at least one wear-stable material layer.

55. (New) The covering according to claim 54, wherein said material layer influencing the surface of a fibrous web is one of a textile areal structure and a non-textile areal structure.

56. (New) The covering according to claim 54, wherein said wear-stable material layer is one of a textile areal structure and a non-textile areal structure.

57. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein the construction kit of prefabricated web-shaped material layers comprises at least one dimension-stable material layer.

58. (New) The covering according to claim 57, wherein said dimension-stable material layer is one of a textile areal structure and a non-textile areal structure.

59. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said construction kit of prefabricated web-shaped material layers comprises at least one material layer influencing the liquid adsorption capacity.

60. (New) The covering according to claim 59, wherein said material layer influencing the liquid adsorption capacity has one of a high liquid adsorption capacity and a low liquid adsorption capacity.

61. (New) The covering according to claim 60, wherein said material layer with a high liquid adsorption capacity is one of a textile areal structure and a non-textile areal structure.

62. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said construction kit of prefabricated web-shaped material layers comprises at least one anti-rewetting material layer.

63. (New) The covering according to claim 62, wherein said anti-rewetting material layer is one of a textile areal structure and a non-textile areal structure.

64. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said textile areal structure is one of a weave structure, a fleece, a thread plaiting, and a warp knitting.

65. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said non-textile areal structure is one of:

at least one of a structured film and a penetrated film;

at least one of a structured membrane and a penetrated membrane; and

a foamed layer.

66. (New) The covering according to claim 65, wherein said film is at least one of extruded and rolled.

67. (New) The covering according to claim 65, wherein said foamed layer has a defined pore size.

68. (New) The covering according to claim 65, wherein said foamed layer has a plurality of defined pore sizes.

69. (New) The covering according to claim 68, wherein said foamed layer has a defined pore size in a transverse profile.

70. (New) The covering according to claim 50, wherein said web-shaped material layers are joined to one another with at least one of a chemical and a mechanical bond.

71. (New) The covering according to claim 70, wherein said web-shaped material layers are joined to one another by different bonding methods depending on the category, the operating conditions, and the material layers to be joined together.

72. (New) The covering according to claim 71, wherein said web-shaped material layers are mutually offset in one of a machine direction and a transverse machine direction and joined together, two-dimensionally, in sections so that the covering forms two end areas which complement each other in form and function and can be joined together.